

1.956
A2F738
Cap 2

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
November 2, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

There will be no marketing quotas in effect for 1951 crop corn, and acreage allotments (required under the Agricultural Act of 1938, as amended) will be set at levels high enough to provide a substantial increase in production next year, Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan announced November 2. The action, he stated, should make it possible for farmers to go ahead with plans for increasing hog production and preparing their land for greater corn output, in the areas where this is done in the fall.

While our present feed grain supply situation is excellent, with a total of more than 150 million tons in supply for all uses in the 1950-51 year, Brannan pointed out that high level production will be needed again next year. "We must have the feed to support expected increases in meat production while, at the same time, we maintain safe reserves for the future."

The October 1 carryover of corn is estimated at 859 million bushels - a near record. Corn utilization in the past year exceeded 3.3 billion bushels - well above 1950 production now estimated at 3.1 billion. . . bushels. The carryover plus 1950 production will total less than four billion bushels and utilization is expected to bring the October 1, 1951 carryover to 600 million bushels.

This carryover will be an adequate reserve, Secretary Brannan points out, if we have good production in 1951, but it is essential that U.S. farmers set their sights for a big 1951 crop to be on the safe side in the national defense effort.

* * *

Stocks of food and feed grains in the U.S. October 1, 1950, in all positions, were at or near record highs (except rye). These stocks were: wheat, 1,192,000 bu.; rye, 25,141,000 bu.; corn (1948-49 crop), 859 million bu.; oats, 1,258,000,000 bu.; sorghum grain, 59,453,000 bu.

Oats stocks were second only to October 1, 1945; wheat holdings were second only to the 1,372 million bushels of October 1, 1942, and rye stocks were the largest since 1944 but below prewar average.

* * *

Potatoes marketed from North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, northern Iowa and northern Indiana will meet new requirements on grade and size just recommended by North Central Potato Committee. In southern part of the area, potatoes must grade U. S. No. 2, 65 per cent U. S. No. 1 or better; in northern part of area, where most of crop is produced, minimum grade is U. S. Commercial, 85 per cent U. S. No. 1.

Washed potatoes over entire area, U. S. No. 2, 30 per cent U. S. No. 1 Minimum size, 2 inch for round varieties; 1-3/4 inch diameter for long varieties. Growers estimate these regulations submitted to U.S.D.A. for approval will result in holding 10 million bushels off the market.

* * *

Civilian per capita food consumption in the U.S. in the period July 1, 1949-June 30, 1950, was 11 percent above the prewar (1935-39) average annual rate. Total distribution of U. S. food supplies in the 12-month period amounted to 132,774,000 long tons. Of this, U.S. civilians received 87.1 per cent, military services .8 per cent, U.S. territories .4 per cent, and exports 11.7 per cent.

* * *

Price support purchases and sales of dairy products, week ended Oct. 20: Butter, none; cheese, 490,573 lbs.; nonfat milk solids, 469,000 lbs. Sales to trade: Butter, 2,854,091 lbs.; cheese, 37,901; nonfat milk solids, 1,604,031 lbs.

Unsold stocks 1949-50 purchases, October 20: Butter, 162,400,000 lbs.; cheese, 51,800,000 lbs.; spray and roller milk solids, 309,600,000 lbs.

* * *

USDA on Oct. 26 announced a marketing quota of 650 thousand tons of 1951-crop peanuts and a national allotment of 1,771,117 acres. Growers will vote in a referendum on the marketing quotas for 1951, 1952, and 1953 crops on December 14, 1950.

* * *

The Index of Prices received by farmers dropped 4 points (over 1%) in the 30 day period ended October 15 to 268 per cent of the 1910-1914 base period, due to sharp declines in hog prices, and more moderate drops in prices of most crops. In the same month, the parity index (prices paid by farmers including interest, taxes, and wage rates) went up 1 point to 261 of the 1910-1914 base (100), and, only 1 point below the record high of 262 of June and July, 1948.

Prices paid to farmers for products lag far behind the rising cost of the things he must buy for production and living. This is indicated by the October 15 index of 268 for prices received compared with the high of 306 in January, 1948, while the parity index is only 1 point below the 1948 record high.

bu. * * *
Only 2,822,000 of old soybeans remained in all storage positions on October 1, BAE reports. The 1950 crop, based on October 1 conditions, will total 275 million bushels - about 53 million more than 1949 and 110 million bushels greater than the average production of 1939-48.

Flaxseed stocks October 1 totaled 36,744,000 bushels, compared with 50,967,000 bushels a year earlier. The 1950 crop is estimated at 35,224,000 bushels, to bring visible supplies for the marketing year starting July 1 to 52,199,000 bushels - well in excess of expected requirements.

* * *
Meat production under Federal inspection in the week ending October 28 totaled 326 million pounds - up two per cent from the preceding week, but 2 per cent below the corresponding 1949 week. Included were: beef, 142 million pounds; veal, 15.2 million; pork, 158 million; lamb and mutton, 10.3 million pounds. Lard output was 38.1 million pounds.

Commercial meat production (Federal inspection and other, except farm slaughter) in the nine months January - September, 1950, amounted to 14,573,000,000 pounds - 312 million more than in the same 1949 period. Practically all of the increase was pork.

* * *
As of September 30, 1950, CCC's investment in price support program loans and inventories amounted to \$3,014,109,000, Ralph S. Trigg, president, announced November 1. Of the total, loans outstanding accounted for \$840,652,000, while inventories acquired under loan, purchase agreement, and direct purchase operations represented an investment of \$2,173,538,000. The Agency sustained a net realized loss of \$28,199,000 in carrying out the program from July 1 through September 30, 1950, largely on eggs, milk, butter, grain sorghums, and flaxseed. The loss is substantially below the same period a year earlier.

* * *
Sugar distribution by primary distributors in the Continental U.S., for civilian and military use, totaled 6,908,925 short tons from January 1 through October 21, 1950 - 541,804 tons more than in the same 1949 period. Approximately 1,800,000 tons still remain of the 1950 U.S. sugar allotments. This is about a three months normal U.S. supply.

* * *
CCC has sold to Yugoslavia 440,000 cwt. of dry edible beans, 10 million pounds of dried eggs, and 2 million pounds of Mexican canned beef and gravy, to help that country relieve drastic food shortages brought on by a severe drought. The beans were from 1948-crop, and all commodities were acquired by CCC under price support operations.

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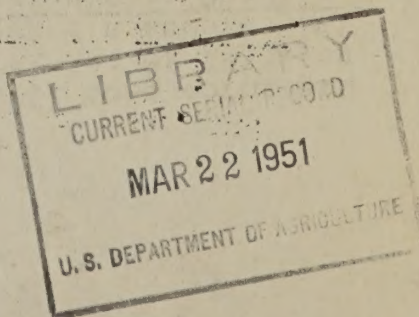
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
November 8, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

The downward trend in farm income which began in 1948 was reversed in mid-1950, and gross farm income this year will be only slightly below the 1949 total, USDA's Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports. A substantial rise is predicted for 1951. However, realized net income for 1950 will show a further decline from 1949 because of lower prices for farm products in the first half of 1950. Much of the reduction of net income sustained in 1949 and Jan.-July, 1950, will be regained in the last half of 1950 and in 1951, BAE predicts.

Here are the bureau's estimates of cash receipts from farm marketings in August 1950 and, Jan-Aug. 1950, compared with the same 1949 periods:

| | Aug. 1949 (\$1,000) | Aug. 1950 (\$1,000) | Jan.-Aug. 1949 (\$1,000) | Jan.-Aug. 1950 (\$1,000) |
|--------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ohio | 95,496 | 88,675 | 612,949 | 578,156 |
| Indiana | 89,282 | 84,728 | 594,806 | 559,924 |
| Illinois | 136,764 | 137,361 | 1,086,763 | 1,046,533 |
| Michigan | 75,705 | 76,736 | 430,574 | 436,422 |
| Wisconsin | 79,876 | 82,782 | 640,514 | 625,940 |
| Minnesota | 109,459 | 109,096 | 745,303 | 711,657 |
| Iowa | 144,456 | 151,347 | 1,287,244 | 1,256,463 |
| Missouri | 87,484 | 87,288 | 589,279 | 574,336 |
| North Dakota | 56,463 | 53,885 | 303,545 | 221,351 |
| South Dakota | 60,433 | 59,741 | 348,846 | 300,205 |
| Nebraska | 81,348 | 88,953 | 599,672 | 581,612 |
| Kansas | 122,546 | 113,386 | 688,938 | 628,512 |
| Total | 1,139,312 | 1,133,978 | 7,928,433 | 7,521,111 |

Cash receipts from marketings in all 48 states in the Jan.-Aug. 1950 period are estimated at \$15.5 billion—about \$1 billion below the same 8 months of 1949.

* * *

The U.S. has a refrigerated storage capacity of 701 million cubic feet—a 4% or 26 million cubic feet increase in gross storage space since Oct. 1947, when the last biennial survey was made. Most of the increase occurred in the Pacific Region—with slight gains only in other areas. Refrigerated warehouses in operation Oct. 1, 1949 totaled 1,849, concentrated largely in the East, with only 668 refrigerated storages west of the Mississippi. Freezer storage (0°F and below) totaled 167,950,000 cubic feet, and space with (0°F through 29°F) amounted to 96,770,000 cubic feet. The balance was in "coolers", (29°F through 50°F). Net piling space amounts to 513,357,000 cubic feet.

* * *

Atlanta, Georgia has been designated by USDA as a spot cotton market, effective December 4, 1950, under provisions of the Cotton Futures Act of 1916. At the same time, the Department announced discontinuance of Savannah, Georgia as a designated spot cotton market. The changes were recommended by the American Cotton Shippers Association and the Atlantic Cotton Association, principally because the volume of cotton handled at Savannah is no longer sufficient to warrant a spot cotton market there, whereas the Atlanta volume is enough to justify addition of this city to designated markets under the Act.

* * *

Sales under the International Wheat Agreement, confirmed by CCC in the week ended Oct. 31, 1950, totaled 2,825,000 bushels of wheat (including flour in wheat equivalent). Principal buyers were the Netherlands, U.K., Belgium, India, and the Philippines. Cumulative sales against 1950-51 quotas through Oct. 31 are 62,148,000 bushels.

* * *

CCC's stocks of 1948-crop cotton pooled for producers' account Aug. 1, 1949, have been reduced from an original 3,793,000 bales to approximately 23,000 bales as of Nov. 6, 1950.

* * *

A public hearing will be held Nov. 28, 1950 in the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Auditorium, South Bldg., USDA, Washington, D.C., beginning at 9:30 a.m., on sugar requirements for 1951. Interested persons may present data, views, or arguments with respect to next year's sugar requirements and shipment of sugar quotas for the continental U.S. for calendar 1951.

* * *

Meat production under federal inspection rose 5% in the past week, due to heavier marketings of hogs. Inspected output amounted to 343 million lbs.—up 5% from the preceding week and 4% above the same week in 1949.

* * *

CCC has announced the November list of commodities acquired under price support which are now available for domestic and export sale. For domestic sale, the agency offers nonfat milk powder, American cheese, butter, raw linseed oil, flaxseed, dry edible beans and peas, certain cover crop seeds, potato starch, gum rosin, wheat, oats, barley, corn, and grain sorghums--all with prices established for the month. The export sales list, with prices, includes the commodities listed above except dried whole eggs, cheese, and Irish potatoes.

Stocks of Mexican canned meat acquired during the hoof and mouth disease eradication program in Mexico, have all been disposed of for export. Since the beginning of the sale program in January 1950, CCC has realized \$51,985,167 from sales of commodities for export, and \$76,135,835 from domestic sales. Domestic sales have been at prices based on 5% above acquisition costs and handling charges. Export sales have been at lower prices.

* * *

Supplies of both feed concentrates and hay are ample for requirements of U.S. livestock in the coming year, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics predicts in the 1950 Outlook Issue of the Feed Situation released October 30. Total supplies of feed concentrates, including grains and by-product feeds, are nearly equal to the record supply in 1949-50, and 1/3 larger than just before the war. The feed grain supplies, not including the record carryover from last year, were only slightly less than the record 1949-50 supply, and will be fully adequate for total domestic and export requirements in the year ahead.

Price-wise, the Bureau expects higher prices for feeds in 1950-51, heavier utilization, and some reduction in the large reserve stocks of feed grains.

* * *

Household purchases of frozen concentrated orange juice reached a new high of 1,470,000 gallons in September - 162,000 gallons above the previous high in August. Percentage of families buying also rose sharply from 15% in August to 17.1% in September, the highest proportion of families buying reported to date. Average September price was 25.5¢ per 6-ounce can, slightly below the August average. At the same time, household purchases of frozen concentrated grape juice declined from 94,000 to 87,000 gallons, and purchases of other frozen concentrated juices dropped to 138,000 gallons in the month.

* * *

USDA's estimate of the 1950 cotton crop has been raised 76,000 bales - nearly 1% - to 9,945,000 bales, on the basis of Nov. 1 conditions. 1949 production was 16,128,000--1939-48 average, 11,599,000 bales.

* * *

Total U.S. output of fats and oils in the year beginning Oct. 1, 1950 is expected to amount to 11.7 to 11.8 billion pounds -- 0.2 billion pounds smaller than a year earlier but larger than any year before 1947-48.

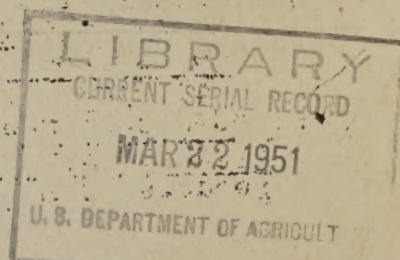
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The 1950-crop of tung nuts for oil will be supported at an average level of \$63 per ton, basis 17.5% oil content. The rate is 60% of parity as of November 1, 1950. Grower-owned tung oil will be supported at 25.1¢ per pound.

* * *

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
November 15, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

The warm, sunny, and dry weather of October permitted completion of the small grain harvest in the Northwest, helped to cure the corn crop, favored development and picking of cotton in the South, and fruit in the North, and helped producers to harvest soybeans, grain sorghum, rice, and root crops rapidly and, with a minimum of loss. The late crops improved both in quality and quantity in the month to give U.S. farmers their fourth largest crop output of record, according to USDA's Crop Reporting Board.

The year's crop volume, topped by a big corn crop and record crops of soybeans, grain sorghum and sugar beets, will just about equal the average of the last five big years, and is surpassed only by the record crops of 1946, 1948 and 1949. With the big carryovers of food and feed grains, U.S. is in a favorable position, as far as food products are concerned, for the uncertain period ahead.

With demands for food increasing under the impact of the National Defense Program, USDA is urging big increases in 1951 production of wheat, cotton, and corn, and other feed grains needed for greater meat production. The ideal October weather was favorable for fall-sown crops of winter wheat, rye, and oats which have made excellent progress generally toward insuring good crops of these commodities in 1951.

Reports from every state indicate that farmers will make every effort in 1951 to increase their production of the foods and fibers needed for national defense in the critical period now facing the nation.

Addition of 750,000 bags (100 lbs. each) of 1949-crop pea beans to quantities and varieties of dry beans already offered for domestic sale in November, was announced by PMA November 8. The beans are offered at \$7.85 per cwt., bagged, for U.S. No. 1 beans, basis f.o.b. present locations. Other grades have prevailing market differentials. Prices are at points of production; the amount of any paid-in freight will be added. If interested, contact George D. Bradley, PMA Commodity Office, Chicago, Illinois.

Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan on November 9 announced an increase of 1,350,000 bales in the preliminary and interim cotton export allocation for the period August 1, 1950 through March 31, 1951. This brings the interim export allocation to 3,496,000 bales. An improved supply situation, resulting in large part from ideal harvesting conditions and better prospects for reaching the 16 million bale crop goal in 1951, prompted the action.

CCC stocks of 1948-crop cotton, pooled for producer account on August 1, 1949, have been reduced, through sales, to approximately 19,000 bales, as of November 10. The original pool was 3,778,000 bales.

A public hearing to consider proposals for enlarging the Duluth-Superior milk marketing area and changing milk pricing provisions of the federal order regulating the handling of milk in the area will be held November 29 in Duluth, Minnesota. The hearing will begin at 10:00 a.m., CST, in the Federal Court House, Duluth.

USDA has also recommended five changes in the marketing order for Kansas City, Missouri, based on evidence submitted at hearings last May. The changes are subject to approval or disapproval by a referendum of producers in the area.

An export payment program, effective November 15, has been announced by PMA to encourage exports of fresh and processed oranges and grapefruit. It provides for payments up to one-half of the export price f.a.s. U.S. port, to be limited by maximum rates established for the individual products. The program is similar to one in effect last year on oranges. Under this program 1,723,017 boxes of fresh oranges, 190,941 gallons of concentrated orange juice, and 82,516 cases of canned single strength orange juice were exported.

Marvin C. Smith has been appointed assistant director of the Chicago PMA Commodity Office, effective October 29. He takes the place of Donald E. Smith, recently appointed director of the Kansas City Commodity Office.

Inspected meat production last week totaled 339 million pounds--down 1% from the preceding week but 11% above the same week of 1949. Included were: Beef, 140 million lbs.; veal, 15.1 million; pork, 174 million; lamb and mutton, 9.4 million pounds. Lard output was about 43 million pounds.

USDA has approved the marketing regulations recommended by the North Central Potato Committee for the marketing of potatoes produced in the six-state area under Marketing Order No.60. They provide that all unwashed potatoes sold be of U.S. Commercial grade containing not less than 85% U.S. No.1 quality in the northern part of the production area, and U.S. No.2 with not less than 65% U.S. No.1 quality in the southern part. All washed potatoes sold must contain not less than 30% U.S. No.1 quality throughout the area, to qualify as U.S. No.2 grade. Size regulations provide a 2" minimum for round and 1 3/4" minimum for long varieties.

Marketing Order No.60 regulates the marketing of potatoes grown in North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, and designated counties in Iowa and Indiana.

Removal of all restrictions on the marketing of 1950-51 crop sugar cane in Puerto Rico was announced November 13 by PMA. The action supersedes an earlier one providing a mechanism for curtailing marketing of sugar cane except by small farms on the Island on account of an expected large sugar carryover from the 1949-50 crop. After the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, the demand for, and the distribution of sugar increased to such an extent that Puerto Rico will be able to market all its old crop sugar and may even market some new crop before the end of 1950. The increased demand was the basis for the November 13 PMA action.

Food consumption per person in the U.S. in 1951 is likely to be somewhat higher than in the last three years, according to estimates of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The Agency expects supplies of most foods will be larger but will not keep up with the accelerated consumer demand, and food prices can therefore be expected to rise moderately. Military requirements next year are expected to rise but are not likely to amount to more than 3 or 4% of total food utilization unless the world political situation gets worse and U.S. armed forces requirements are much larger than now expected.

Sale of 4.4 million pounds of Cheddar cheese and 15 million pounds of nonfat dry milk solids to the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, for use chiefly in school lunch and child feeding programs, was announced November 10 by USDA. The foods are part of CCC's inventory of price support dairy products. Total sales of these products to UNICEF during 1950 now total 9.4 million pounds of cheese and 165 million pounds of nonfat milk powders.

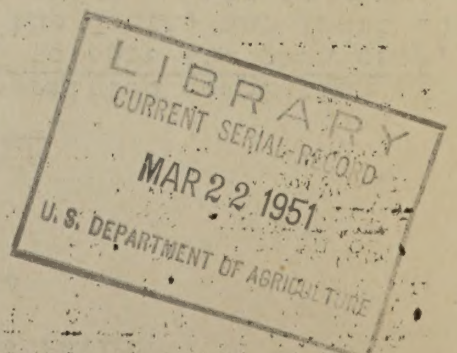
Sales under the International Wheat Agreement, confirmed by CCC in the period Nov.1-Nov.7,1950, amounted to 2,346,000 bushels of wheat (including flour in wheat equivalent). Principal buyers were Brazil, Portugal, Israel, and Mexico. Cumulative sales against 1950-51 quotas to November 7 are 64,494,000 bushels. This compares with cumulative sales of about 15 million bushels in the same 1949 period (August 1-November 7).

USDA Dairy Support: Purchases, week ended November 3-nonfat milk powder, 238,075 lbs.; Sales-butter, 11,749,990 lbs.; cheese, 264,621 lbs.; nonfat milk powder, 3,213,328 lbs. 1949-50 purchases, unsold as of November 3: butter, 148.8 million lbs.; cheese, 42.7 million; nonfat milk powder, 290.1 million pounds.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
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Chicago 5, Illinois
November 22, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

America had more food than usual in cold storage at end of October. PMA's monthly report on cold storage holdings showed 3 billion pounds of food held in coolers, and 1.9 billion pounds held in freezers. Supply of frozen vegetables was at all-time high record; supply of shell eggs, all-time low for the date. Space in coolers was 72 per cent occupied, and freezer space 78 per cent occupied.

Table below shows commodities in storage and changes during October.

| NET CHANGES IN U. S. STORAGE HOLDINGS DURING OCTOBER 1950 | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Cooler Commodities | Holdings Oct. 31 | Net Change During Oct. | Freezer Commodities | Holdings Oct. 31 | Net Change During Oct. |
| | "000" lbs | "000" lbs. | | "000" lbs | "000" lbs |
| Apples | 1,634,496 | 1,283,088 | Fruits | 490,509 | 24,374 |
| Pears | 119,450 | -104,950 | Vegetables | 453,129 | 22,553 |
| Dried & ev.fts. | 25,497 | -3,300 | Cream | 14,598 | -1,709 |
| Can'd. ft. & veg. | 3,455 | 696 | Creamy | | |
| Nuts & nutmeats | 33,030 | -10,029 | butter | 207,795 | -26,316 |
| Fish | 27,807 | - | Eggs | 104,079 | -28,923 |
| Cheese | 310,935 | -15,972 | Poultry | 217,801 | 77,449 |
| Shell eggs | 22,230 | -47,880 | Beef | 84,851 | 12,603 |
| Dried eggs | 105,931 | -5,608 | Pork | 82,201 | -10,803 |
| Beef | 9,931 | 1,023 | Sausage | 3,926 | 291 |
| Pork | 139,081 | -8,419 | Lamb & mutton | 7,845 | 1,359 |
| Sausage | 7,224 | -1,340 | Veal | 9,174 | 845 |
| Canned meats | 22,239 | -1,170 | Edible offal | 38,761 | 604 |
| Lard & pork fat | 51,449 | -6,792 | Fish | 163,000 | 4,527 |
| Other | 482,201 | 150,130 | Other | 26,540 | -511 |
| Total | 2,994,956 | 1,229,477 | Total | 1,904,209 | 76,343 |

"Very little" in the way of wartime controls on food and agricultural products will be needed in the present situation, Ralph Trigg, Administrator of PMA told Grocery Manufacturers of America at their national meeting last week. "We have abundant supplies of most agricultural commodities; enough to take care of present needs without resorting to drastic measures in order to spread out shortages." Neither does present situation warrant establishing formal committees representing food industry to work with USDA, Administrator Trigg said. "Right now we are not thinking in terms of price controls or ceilings. Nearly all food commodities are below parity now." Defense Production Act provides that price ceilings on farm products may not be set below parity or prices of last May-June - whichever is higher.

BAE figures as of October 15 show cotton, cottonseed, wool, and meat animals, except hogs, above parity; other farm products below parity.

Percentage of parity for major commodities follows:

| | | | |
|------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Cotton..... | 122 | Cottonseed..... | 119 |
| Wool..... | 123 | Lambs..... | 132 |
| Beef Cattle..... | 137 | Hogs..... | 98 |
| Corn..... | 83 | Wheat..... | 84 |
| Milk..... | 93 | Butter..... | 86 |
| Eggs..... | 82 | Potatoes..... | 47 |
| Oranges..... | 42 | Apples..... | 73 |

CCC has invited meat packers to offer smoked pork shoulder picnics and lard for sale. Smoked pork will be used for school lunch program; lard is for export. "Substantial quantities" of both will be bought.

BAE reports more beef cattle on feed than usual, but not quite so many as a year ago, when record number of cattle was brought from range into Corn Belt for fattening. Number of lambs on feed in Corn Belt is smaller than last year; indication that western sheep men are holding back more than usual number of lambs for breeding stock.

U. S. Department of Agriculture gave official approval last week to grade and size regulations for Midwest potatoes recommended by growers and handlers comprising North Central Potato Marketing Committee. Round potatoes must be 2 inches in diameter; long varieties, 1-7/8 inches. Potatoes in northern area must grade 85 per cent U. S. No. 1; those in southern zone 65 per cent U. S. No. 1. Washed potatoes must grade 30 per cent U. S. No. 1, or better. Regulations effective November 27, 1950 to June 1, 1951.

* * *

Commodity Credit Corporation bought 8,723,000 pounds of crude soybean oil and 1,904,000 pounds of refined soybean oil for export to Austria last week. First purchases of this commodity since May.

* * *

Meat production in plants under Federal inspection during week ended November 18 totaled 369 million pounds, 9 per cent above week earlier, 1 per cent above year ago. Cattle and hog slaughter both above previous week, but hog production was below year ago.

* * *

Dairy farmer organizations have requested USDA to establish Federal milk marketing orders in two Midwest marketing areas. One would cover Grand Rapids, Grand Haven, Muskegon, and Holland, Michigan. Public hearing at Coopersville, Michigan, December 4. Other request is for Cedar Rapids and Iowa City, Iowa; public hearing at Cedar Rapids, December 11.

Other proposals on Federal milk marketing orders:

Increase in prices to producers in Toledo area; public hearing on November 30. Consolidation of Chicago and its suburbs into one order; public hearing on December 4.

Changes in price provisions in St. Louis market; public hearing November 27.

CCC has offered to sell some of its Cuban sugar to other countries. Last summer, when sugar buying rush was on, U. S. government contracted for all of Cuba's sugar. Retail sugar purchases in October were less than half those in July; so evidently not all the available sugar will be needed; hence the offering to other nations.

* * *

CCC sold 5,267,389 pounds of its butter stocks back to the trade last week--about 2 million pounds more than the previous week. That brought CCC holdings down to 139,371,851 pounds as of November 17. Purchases last week totaled only 39,240 pounds.

* * *

Farmers will receive about \$25.2 billion dollars from their sales of crops and livestock from January 1 through end of November, Bureau of Agricultural Economics estimates. About 2 per cent below income during same period last year. Volume of sales for 11 months down about 5 per cent below year ago, but prices average slightly higher, brought up by higher prices on livestock, cotton and wool.

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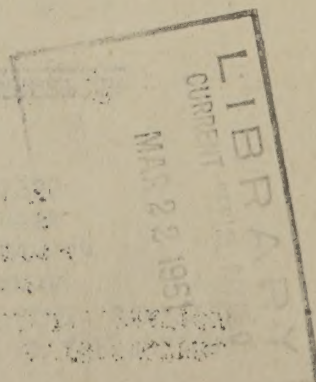
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623 South Wabash Avenue
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November 29, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

U.S. farm flocks laid the largest October egg production of record--4,014 million eggs--6% more than October 1949 and 37% above the 1939-48 October average. Total egg production for the first 10 months of 1950 is estimated at 51,255 million eggs--7% above 1949, and 15% above average.

In the face of this continued heavy production and, the inability of USDA to find adequate outlets for dried eggs acquired under price support, Secretary of Agriculture Brannan announced on November 22 that the egg support program will be discontinued as of December 31, 1950. Currently the Department holds about 100 million pounds of dried eggs acquired under the program.

Since USDA started the purchase of dried eggs in 1941, as a measure of price support and because the commodity was easily exportable for wartime needs of the U.S. and allies, the Department purchased more than 1,100 million pounds of dried eggs. From 1941 through 1947, the dried eggs were distributed for lend-lease purposes, military requirements, and direct sale to Great Britain. Since then, after the British ran out of dollar exchange, disposal of the dried eggs has been a problem. Outlets have included school lunch, sales for commercial export, to ECA countries and Yugoslavia, etc., at reduced prices, donations for foreign and domestic welfare.

Egg supports were mandatory at 90% of parity, under wartime and post-war legislation, from 1941 through 1949. Under the Agricultural Act of 1949, support of egg prices is discretionary with the Secretary of Agriculture, starting January 1, 1950.

Butter sales to the trade from unsold CCC stocks acquired under price support in 1949-50, have been exceptionally heavy in the past two weeks. In the week ended November 18, sales totaled 5,167,410 pounds; last week sales amounted to 7,371,114 pounds. Both figures are subject to some revision. Stocks remaining unsold as of November 24 totaled approximately 133 million pounds.

July-October 1950 exports of U.S. grains and grain products are estimated at about 131,951,000 bushels of grain equivalent. This compares with 193,982,000 bushels in the like 1949 period. Of the July-October 1950 total, about 34% went to ECA countries, 30% to cash-paying governments, 27% to Germany and U.S. Pacific occupied areas, and 9% to a miscellaneous group of other countries.

Revised federal grade standards for steer, heifer, and cow carcasses, proposed by USDA on May 12, will become effective December 29. The change includes combining the present Prime and Choice beef grades under the name Prime, renaming the present Good grade as Choice, and setting up a new grade to be called Good, which will consist of beef from higher quality young cattle now graded Commercial. The beef from older cattle will continue to be graded Commercial. The standards for Utility, Cutter, and Canner grades will remain unchanged.

Through October 1950, U.S. farmers put approximately 188.5 million bushels of 1949-crop wheat, barley, oats, rye, flaxseed, soybeans, corn, and grain sorghums under CCC price support. This compares with 353.7 million bushels of the same grains placed under support in the like 1949 period.

Federally inspected meat production in the holiday week ended November 25 totaled 334 million pounds--down 10% from the preceding week but 1% above the same week last year. Included were: Beef, 128 million lbs.; veal, 12.4 million; pork, 186 million; lamb and mutton, 8.4 million pounds. Lard output was estimated at 44.7 million pounds.

Total 1949 U.S. production of cheese was 1.2 billion pounds--largest of record, and 9% over 1948. Wisconsin produced 47% of the U.S. total; New York ranked second; Illinois, third; Missouri, fourth; and Minnesota, fifth. Of the total, American Cheddar accounted for 885 million pounds.

Purchases of lard by USDA under the LS-5 announcement dated November 17, amounted to about 18 million pounds, at an average price of 16.68 cents per pound, delivered at ports.

PMA's Cotton Branch reports the indicated supply of cotton in the U.S. for the current season is nearly 16.9 million bales. This compares with the 1949-50 supply of 21.5 million bales, and the 5-year 1945-49 average of slightly over 18 million. At the August-October rate, domestic mill consumption for the current season would total 10.4 million bales. The interim export quota for August 1, 1950-March 31, 1951, is 3,496,000 bales. Exports to Canada, not subject to the quota, are expected to be about 250,000 bales in this 8-month period. About 108,000 bales were shipped to non-allocation countries before the imposition of export allocations. Prices for Middling 15/16" averaged a record 43.93cents per pound in the 10 spot markets on Wednesday, November 22--36% higher than they were in June.

The 1951 cotton crop will be supported to farmers at 90% of the parity price as of August 1, 1951, through loans to farmers. Price support is mandatory for the 1951 cotton crop at from 75 to 90% of parity. Secretary of Agriculture Brannan put the 1951 support at 90% to encourage production of a goal of 16 million bales next year to assure adequate supplies of the fiber for a possible national emergency.

World coffee production in 1950-51 is forecast at about 2% below the 1949-50 output, according to USDA's Foreign Crops and Markets. The exportable production is expected to amount to about 28.4 million bags (132.3 pounds each) compared with the revised estimates of 29.1 million bags in 1949-50 and 30.5 million in 1948-49.

The decrease forecast for 1950-51 is chiefly due to the smaller Brazilian 1950 coffee harvest. Brazil's 1950-51 exportable supplies is estimated at only 13.6 million bags, compared with 14,950,000 bags in 1949-50, and 15,740,000 bags in 1948-49. The smaller coffee crop in Brazil is partially offset by higher output forecast for Africa and Asia. Production in North America and Oceania is expected to approximate the 1949-50 output in these areas.

Marketing quotas for the 1951-crop of all continental types of cigar-filler and cigar-binder tobacco were proclaimed November 28 by Acting Secretary of Agriculture Knox T. Hutchinson. Growers, including those in Wisconsin and Minnesota, may vote in referenda December 20 for (1) quotas for three years beginning with the 1951 crop, (2) quotas for 1950 only, or (3) against quotas. Marketing quotas cannot be put into effect unless they are approved by at least two-thirds of the growers voting in the referenda.

Distribution of sugar by primary distributors from January 1 through November 18, 1950 amounted to 7,402,392 short tons, raw value-- 538,474 tons more than in the same 1949 period.

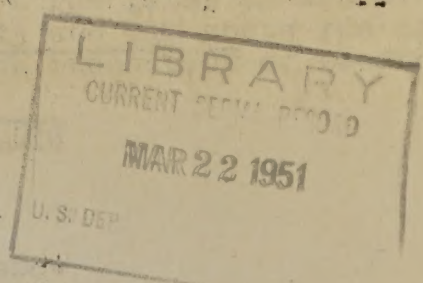
Effective November 25, USDA removed lard, edible and inedible, cotton, oleo oil, and stearine, palm oil, fatty acids, soap and soap powder, from import controls under which these commodities have been since World War II. Remaining under import controls are butter, peanuts, soybeans, sunflower seed, flaxseed, and other oils, cottonseed oil, flaxseed screenings, combinations and mixtures of animal and vegetable oils, lard compounds, rice, and rice products.

Sales under the International Wheat Agreement, confirmed by CCC in the week ended November 21, amounted to 8,173,000 bushels of wheat (and flour in wheat equivalent). Principal buyers were Germany, Egypt, Brazil, Israel, and Norway.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
December 6, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

Generally higher prices for practically all commodities raised the Index of prices received by farmers 8 points from mid-October to mid-November to 276% of the 1910-14 average. Exception to higher prices were fruits and hogs, while prices for cotton, cottonseed, veal, sheep, lambs and wool were at record highs. The Index is still 30 points below the record high of 306 in January 1948.

The parity index (prices paid by farmers for products needed for production and living, wages, and taxes) rose 2 points in the period to 263% of the 1910-14 average--a record high.

* * *

About 28 1/2 million Christmas trees, with a retail value of more than \$50 million, will be marketed in the U.S. during the coming holiday season, USDA's Forest Service predicts. This year's supply of Xmas trees will probably equal last year's, with prices running about the same as a year ago. Of the 1950 total marketings, 21.5 million will be cut in this country and nearly 7 million will be imported from Canada. Balsam-Fir, the favorite Xmas tree with Americans, makes up about 30% of the total sales each year, with Douglas-Fir, Black Spruce, Red Cedar, White Spruce, Scotch Pine, following in preference.

PMA's Fruit and Vegetable Market News Service is issuing a daily report of carlot receipts and wholesale prices at the Chicago South Water Market. The service will continue through December 22. Receipts to date total 85 cars.

* * *

CCC's investment in price support programs on October 31, 1950 amounted to \$2,898,405,000. Of this total, loans outstanding (mostly on corn, wheat and tobacco) totaled \$872,364,000. Inventories acquired under loan, purchase agreement and direct purchase (including large holdings of corn and wheat) accounted for the balance of \$2,026,041,000.

Corn under loan and in the inventory amounted to approximately 620 million bushels. Wheat in the same positions totaled more than 448 million bushels. Tobacco stocks under loan were 285,210,575 pounds.

* * *

A joint public hearing to consider holding minimum farm milk prices in 5 Midwest milk marketing areas at current levels through March, 1951, will be held December 6 in Chicago. The areas are Chicago, Suburban Chicago, South Bend-LaPorte, Indiana, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Rockford-Freeport, Illinois. The hearing was requested by milk producer associations in the areas. They contend that prices must be held at present levels to assure adequate supplies of milk for the markets. The hearing will begin at 10 a.m., c.s.t., in the Sherman Hotel, Chicago.

* * *

Export allocation for both hard and soft cotton wastes were established November 30 in a joint action by the U.S. Department of Commerce and USDA, to conserve essential domestic stocks of these cotton products. The action follows a similar one with respect to cotton exports from the U.S. Export license controls were made effective on all types of cotton wastes on November 9.

* * *

Sales under the International Wheat Agreement in the week ended November 28, confirmed by CCC, amounted to 10,255,000 bushels of wheat (and flour in wheat equivalent). Principal buyers were Greece, Mexico, Brazil, Belgium, and Egypt. Cumulative sales against 1950-51 quotas through November 21 are 85,586,000 bushels.

* * *

Sales of CCC-owned butter in the week ended December 1 were 11,047,929 pounds. This is the largest disposal of price support butter to the domestic trade in one week since the CCC started support purchases in 1949. USDA reports unsold stocks of butter from 1949-50 purchases at 130,600,000 pounds, as of November 24. Last week's sales would reduce these stocks to less than 120 million pounds. Demand for the government stocks continues brisk.

* * *

Meat output under Federal inspection in the week ended December 2 is estimated at 419 million pounds--25 percent above the Thanksgiving holiday week, and 5 percent greater than the production of the same week in 1949. Included were: Beef, 158 million pounds; veal, 14 million; pork, 236 million; lamb and mutton, 10.4 million pounds. The week's lard output was 58.2 million pounds.

* * *

of interest to cigarette smokers is the marketing quota for 1951-crop flue-cured tobacco--1,235 million pounds--proclaimed by USDA November 28. This compares with the 1950 quota of 1,097 million pounds, and represents an increase of 9 percent in the acreage allotments for next year's crop. The quota is based on 1945-49 average yields per acre on 1,069,000 acres, compared with 968,600 in 1950. The increase in acreage and quotas are designed to provide adequate supplies of flue-cured tobacco for an expected larger volume of domestic consumption and, for exports. About 95 percent of the domestic consumption of flue-cured goes into cigarettes, of which U.S. smokers consumed 355 billion in the fiscal year 1949-50. A further increase in domestic consumption is anticipated.

Short tobacco supplies in foreign countries and an improved dollar exchange situation is expected to keep export demand relatively strong. About 446 million pounds of flue-cured tobacco were exported in the 1949-50 marketing year.

* * *

USDA, on December 1, announced the list of CCC-owned commodities available for domestic sale, and for sale for export, with prices. The lists are practically the same as issued for November, with some changes in prices, notably on grains, eggs, and gum rosin.

The domestic sale's prices for grains are higher due to the higher December 1 parity level, as required by law, and the price of gum rosin for domestic sale and for export was upped from \$8 to \$8.50 per hundred pounds net, with corresponding differentials, according to grades. Some dried eggs from the 1950 pack are offered for domestic sale, and eggs from this pack are also available for export.

* * *

An additional quantity of smoked pork shoulder picnics will be purgased for distribution to schools under the National School Lunch Program, PMA announced December 5. Approximately 5,800,000 pounds of smoked pork shoulders had been purchased previously for distribution to school lunch programs.

Offers under the new announcement must be submitted by midnight December 11, for acceptance not later than 11 p.m., e.s.t., December 14. Persons interested may obtain complete information from the Livestock Branch, PMA, USDA, Washington 25, D.C.

* * *

In view of the growing importance of cane blackstrap molasses and beet molasses in the national economy, USDA has made arrangements to start an experimental market news service on these commodities. It will be conducted cooperatively by PMA and the Louisiana State Market Commission, under the provisions of the Research and Marketing Act, with headquarters at Baton Rouge. Current plans call for a weekly report starting about mid-December.

* * *

USDA has purchased 28,787,571 bushels of 1950-crop potatoes under mandatory price support operations through November 28, 1950. This compares with 11,573,749 bushels acquired under support in the same 1949 period.

* * *

Increases in the Wheat Agreement quotas of Ceylon and Indonesia were announced December 5 by USDA. The Ceylon quota is increased 30,000 metric tons to 150,000 tons (5,512,000 bu.), and Indonesia's quota is increased 25,000 tons to 100,000 tons (3,674,000 bu.).

* * *

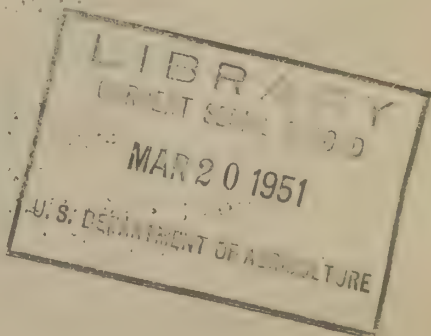
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December 14, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

With most crops harvested, the number of persons at work on farms dropped to 8,940,000 persons, in the week of November 19-25. This was 3 1/3 million persons less than a month earlier, and about 1/2 million less than a year ago. The decrease from a year ago was partly the result of unfavorable weather during the survey week. Of the total, 1,647,000 were hired labor. Average wage rate on October 1 was \$102 per month with board and room, and \$31.25 per week without board and room.

* * * *

Total orange production for the 1950-51 season is forecast by USDA's Crop Reporting Board at 106.5 million boxes - 3 percent above the 1949-50 crop, and 11 percent above average. The grapefruit crop is forecast at 48.5 million boxes - 33 percent above 1949-50, but 4 percent below average. The lemon crop will total 12.5 million boxes - 7 percent above last season.

* * *

The total supply of all feed concentrates for 1950-51 is now estimated at 179 million tons - about 2 percent below the record supplies of last year. It's the third successive year of big feed supplies. Included in the 1950-51 total is 3,965 million bushels of corn, which is 238 million bushels less than the record supply last year, but larger than any other previous year.

* * *

Changes have been proposed in U.S. rye standards by the Chicago Board of Trade and in U.S. soybean standards by American Soybean Association and National Soybean Processors' Association. Hearings on the changes in the rye standards will be held in Minneapolis, Omaha, and Chicago in early February. Those on soybean standards have been scheduled for Toledo, Chicago, Cedar Rapids, Decatur, and Minneapolis, in late January and early February.

* * *

CCC has announced details of plans to purchase 30 million pounds of raw wool for the Army. Offers of Australian, New Zealand, South American, and Cape wools may be made for delivery at the Army Base warehouse at Boston. Details are available from the Wool Division, PMA's Livestock Branch, in Washington, D.C.

* * *

CCC has sold 198.4 million pounds cottonseed oil acquired in the 1949 cottonseed price support program. The Corporation also sold 13,294,818 bushels of flaxseed for crushing and repurchased 269,581,199 pounds of linseed oil. It's offered for domestic sale or export.

* * *

Price support loan rates for 1951-crop Wisconsin tobacco have been announced. Wisconsin tobacco is used principally for cigar binder and scrap chewing. The schedule of rates is available from PMA's Tobacco Branch in Washington, D.C.

* * *

Five public hearings on wage rates and prices for 1951 crop of sugar beets will be held January 3-12. Those in the Midwest are at Detroit January 3, St. Paul on January 5, and Greeley, Colorado Jan. 12.

* * *

Inspected meat production last week was 430 million pounds - 11 percent above the same week last year. Hog slaughter was up 3 percent from a year ago, 10 percent above previous week.

* * *

A record quantity of poultry was canned in October - 15,948,000 pounds. About 9 million more pounds were canned the first 10 months of 1950 than a year ago.

* * *

New director of PMA's Grain Branch is Drexel D. Watson. He has been with the Commodity Office at Portland, Oregon since 1946. He's a native of Kansas.

* * *

Exports under the Wheat Agreement August 1 to December 5 were 91,577,000 bushels. The total for the same period a year ago was about 25 million bushels. Haiti's quota under the Agreement has been filled.

* * * *

USDA proposes to extend to next May 1 the time for poultry processors to change plant facilities to meet requirements under new voluntary dressed poultry grading and inspection program. Previously, no sanitary requirements had applied to "New York dressed" poultry. Comments on the extension may be made to the chief of the Marketings Services Division of PMA's Poultry Branch. USDA made proposal because of shortages of materials and equipment needed to meet sanitary requirements.

Egg production in November is estimated at 3,902 million, to bring the year's output to December 1 to 55,157 million eggs. The November output, while continuing at a record level for the month, showed only 1 percent increase over November 1949, considerably less than shown in previous months over comparable months of 1949.

November milk output was 8,376 million pounds, to bring January-November 1950 production to slightly more than 112 billion pounds. This is about 1.5 billion pounds greater than the same 1949 period.

1950-crop cotton prospects dropped 61,000 bales from the November 1 USDA forecast. Total crop is now estimated at 9,884,000 bales. That's below average, and about 5 1/4 million bales less than last year's production. Meanwhile, the International Cotton Advisory Committee reports estimated world consumption for 1950-51 may reach near record of 32 million bales recorded in 1937-38.

USDA has issued official standards for grades of cheddar cheese. There are only minor changes from tentative standards under trial since 1943.

CCC holdings of American cheese have dwindled to where no further offers will be accepted for remaining stocks of 28,900,000 pounds as of December 9. Prior to the stop-sale order, 4 million pounds were sold to the U.N. Children's Emergency Fund. Sales of cheese to that fund in 1950 amount to 13.4 million pounds.

USDA purchased 21,055,000 pounds of 80 percent-extraction Pacific export enriched flour on December 11, for delivery by January 10, 1951 to west coast ports, for export to Formosa. Offerings by mills on this purchase were 42,800,000 pounds.

A new mechanical cotton sampler has been developed by USDA. It automatically collects lints during ginning and packages a cross section of the bale into a true sample.

No dried eggs have been purchased by USDA for price support for two weeks in a row. Cancellations of previous contracts bring purchases in 1950 down to 82,523,958 pounds.

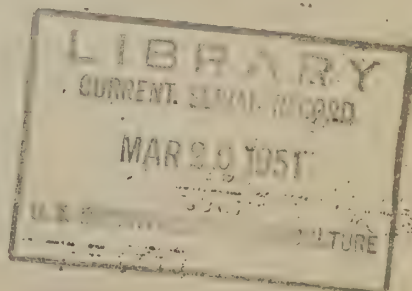
Acreage allotments for rice have been raised 15 percent for the 1951 crop to a total of 1,867,998 acres.

Sales of CCC-owned butter stocks to the trade continue heavy. Total disposals by the Agency in the week ended December 9 amounted to 12,396,884 pounds. This reduces unsold 1949-50 price support purchases to approximately 105 million pounds as of December 9.

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December 19, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

The 1950 annual crop summary reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics December 18, points out that this year's total of 52 major farm crops was the third largest of record and, exceeds the average of the previous 8 years, which have been called the most productive period in American agriculture.

The aggregate volume of crop production in 1950 is 126 percent of the 1923-32 average. It is well below the record 1948 output of 137.5 percent and last year's crop total of 132 percent of this average. But it exceeds that of any other season and was attained, despite a smaller total harvested acreage of the 52 principal crops than in any year since 1942.

Crops of soybeans, grain sorghums, sugar beets, and red clover seed set new records. The corn crop of 3,131 million bushels is the fourth largest of record. So are the crops of oats, all hay, rice, potatoes, popcorn, tobacco, cranberries, alfalfa and sweet clover seeds. Larger than average were the crops of flaxseed, sorghum silage, peanuts, sugarcane for sugar and seed, apples, pears, cherries, citrus fruits and truck crops.

Over 158.4 million tons of the 8 major grains were harvested. Of this total, food grains (wheat, barley and rye) make up nearly 33.5 million tons; feed grains (corn, oats, etc.) amounted to 125 million tons. Oilseed production was 14.7 million tons--third largest of record but only 6 percent less than the record 1949 tonnage, with soybeans accounting for well over one-half.

PMA's national conference of national and regional officials and state farmer-committeemen last week took stock of the problems facing agriculture in 1951. Farmers will be asked to increase their production of many commodities, and do it with less manpower, less fertilizer, less of the modern insecticides. Generally, the nation's agriculture is in good condition, with fertile soil, adequate machinery and plenty of know-how. But getting increases above the present rate of production will be much more difficult than it was 10 years ago.

Sugar charges against quotas during January-November 1950 amounted to 7,875,850 tons, compared with 7,014,017 tons during the same period of 1949. Total 1950 quotas are 8,700,000 tons, leaving a quota balance of 824,183 tons for December, which is in excess of expected U.S. requirements.

Including 99,692 tons assigned to U.S. refiners on December 24, 392,406 tons of CCC's total 1950 purchase of 600,000 tons of Cuban raw sugar have been assigned to U.S. refiners and 127,012 tons to foreign countries.

Sales of CCC-owned cheese acquired under 1950 price support, were discontinued to the trade December 12. Stocks remaining after completion of delivery on prior sales will be sold for export to Great Britain. Cheese price support purchases during 1950 totaled 109 million pounds and USDA's highest inventory was 106.5 million pounds in early September. Before sales to the trade were discontinued, the latest inventory (December 8) stood at 27.5 million pounds. In the meantime, butter sales to the trade continue at a heavy rate. Sales in the week ended December 16 amounted to 14,613,044 pounds, and reduced the total of unsold CCC stocks to 86.9 million pounds, as of December 15.

U.S. exports of agricultural products during October 1950 are estimated at \$233,580,000--about \$26.6 million less than October 1949. Agricultural products accounted for 26% of the total of all U.S. exports in the month, according to Foreign Crops and Markets (USDA).

May we wish you the joys and blessings of the Christmas Season and express the fervent hope that in the New Year ahead, Peace and Good Will will return to our troubled world.

| Cold Storage Holdings Nov. 30 and Net Changes During Nov. 1950 | | | | | |
|--|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Cooler | | | Freezer | | |
| Commodities | Holdings Nov. 30 | Change During Nov. | Commodities | Holdings Nov. 30 | Change During Nov. |
| | "000" lbs. | Pct. | | "000" lbs. | Pct. |
| Apples..... | 1,916,832 | 14 | Fruits..... | 477,399 | 4 |
| Pears..... | 110,250 | -10 | Vegetables..... | 454,987 | -1 |
| Dried & Ev. Fts.. | 27,546 | 11 | Cream..... | 9,604 | -34 |
| Can'd. ft. & Veg... | 5,055 | 21 | Cream'y. butter.. | 159,297 | -23 |
| Nuts & Nutmeats.. | 44,862 | 34 | Eggs..... | 75,557 | -28 |
| Fish (Est.)..... | 23,811 | - | Poultry..... | 269,074 | 23 |
| Cheese..... | 260,827 | -16 | Beef..... | 102,887 | 21 |
| Shell eggs..... | 2,610 | -88 | Pork..... | 136,060 | 73 |
| Dried eggs..... | 99,492 | -8 | Sausage..... | 4,062 | -2 |
| Beef..... | 10,849 | 11 | Lamb & Mutton.. | 9,726 | 22 |
| Pork..... | 183,380 | 30 | Veal..... | 11,830 | 26 |
| Sausage..... | 8,455 | 16 | Edible offal.... | 49,484 | 27 |
| Canned meats..... | 24,773 | 6 | Fish (Est.)..... | 168,000 | 1 |
| Lard & pork fats.. | 53,524 | -3 | Other..... | 25,359 | -5 |
| Other..... | 476,008 | - | | | |
| Total..... | 3,248,274 | 7 | Total..... | 1,953,336 | 2 |

Apple and cheese holdings were at an all-time high for Nov. 30 while stocks of shell eggs were the smallest on that date since 1916. Total meats on hand--542 million pounds--compares with 497 million on Nov. 30 1949, and a Nov. 30 average of 497 million pounds. Cooler occupancy was 71% while freezers were 77% filled.

Production of fats and oils from domestic materials and the oil equivalent of exported domestic oilseeds in the year beginning October 1950 is expected to total 11,980 million pounds--only 10 million pounds less than in the preceding year. Included are: Butter, 1.6 billion pounds; lard and rendered pork fat, 2.8 billion; edible beef fats, .2 billion; edible vegetable oils, 4.2 billion; soap fats and oils, 2.35 billion; and drying oils, .8 billion pounds.

Declarations received through December 9, 1950 under USDA's citrus export payment program, indicate exports as follows: Fresh oranges, 29,373 boxes; fresh grapefruit, 44,215 boxes; single strength orange juice, 42,665 cases; grapefruit juice, 43,215 cases; orange-grapefruit blended, 6,209 cases, all basis 24 No. 2's per case. Exports also included 600 gallons of concentrated orange juice and 18,000 gallons of concentrated grapefruit juice.

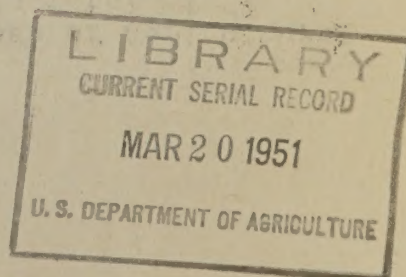
Sales under the International Wheat Agreement, confirmed by CCC in the period December 6-12, 1950, inclusive, amounted to 6,956,000 bushels (including flour in wheat equivalent). Principal buyers were U.K., Switzerland, Netherlands, Philippines and Mexico. Cumulative sales against 1950-51 quotas are 98,533,000 bushels.

USDA has purchased about 8,400,000 pounds of smoked pork shoulders for the National School Lunch Program and, will accept offers of additional quantities for delivery January 2-February 15. For complete information contact Livestock Branch, PMA, USDA, Washington, D.C.

California Bartlett pear, plum, and Elberta peach growers will have an opportunity in the latter part of January 1951 to vote for or against continuation of a Federal marketing agreement and order, as amended, which regulates interstate shipment of the three fruits grown in California.

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PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
Midwest Area, Office of Information Services
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
December 27, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

Biggest pig crop in any peacetime year was reported for 1950 by Bureau of Agricultural Economics, USDA. Just over hundred million pigs. Exceeded only by crops in 1942 and '43. Fall pig crop estimated over 40 million, 9 per cent larger than last year, third largest on record, falling behind '42 and '43. Actual farrowings were about 2 per cent above expectations of last June. Pigs saved per litter, 6.65, highest on record. Spring intentions for '51 indicate 4 per cent increase over spring of '50. Hogs on farms on December 1 slightly more than year ago; this increase accounted for largely by gilts and sows being kept for breeding purposes. Number of spring pigs still to be marketed estimated about same as year ago.

* * *

Federal beef grades will be changed December 29. Both producers and consumers need to take changes into account. Top grade, U. S. Prime, broadened to include U. S. Choice as well as Prime. Former U. S. Good becomes U. S. Choice. New U. S. Good will consist of beef from young animals, steers and heifers, providing high ratio of lean to fat. U. S. Commercial, which formerly included these lightly fleshed young animals as well as fat cows and light steers will now include only latter categories. Utility, canner, and cutter beef grades remain the same. Market reports on live cattle will change terms to correspond with carcass grades. "Medium" and "Common" will be eliminated from market reports, and replaced by "Commercial" and "Utility." Nation's beef supply is about ten billion pounds annually; about one-fourth, mostly top grades, is Federally graded.

* * *

Milk prices paid by dealers to producers will remain at November figures in Chicago, suburban Chicago, Milwaukee, South Bend-LaPorte, Indiana; and Rockford-Freeport, Illinois markets. Prices were scheduled for drop of 20 cents per hundred pounds on fluid milk, but USDA approved on request by producers to keep prices up because of higher cost of production and heavy demand for fluid milk. Action to drop price of Class I (bottled) milk only 25 cents instead of 37 cents, taken in St. Louis milk market. In Columbus, Ohio, market, price will be increased 10 cents per hundred pounds August through March, with additional increase if supply goes below certain level during any month. Decisions by Department of Agriculture all subject to approval of producers.

* * *

Sales of butter by USDA temporarily stopped on December 21 to take inventory. For several weeks, market price has been above government sale price and trade has bought several million pounds per day, 83 million pounds during 1950, reducing government stocks to approximately 75 million pounds as of December 18. U. S. sold 5-1/2 million pounds of butter to Italy last week, under program offering special prices to countries belonging to UN Food and Agriculture Organization. Immediately afterward, announcement was made that butter no longer would be offered for this type of sale or for donation to welfare agencies for overseas relief.

* * *

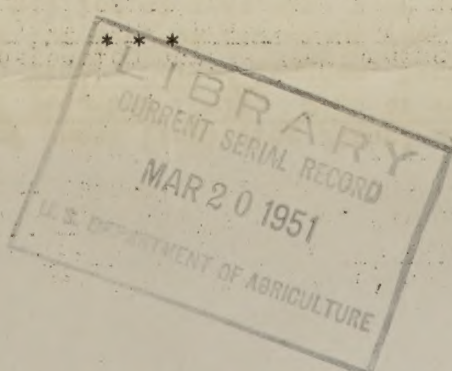
Sugar quota for 1951 set at 8 million tons by Secretary of Agriculture. compares with original quota for 1950 of 7,500,000 tons, later increased to 8,700,000 tons when scare buying in June-July prompted Secretary Brannan to contract for total output of several sugar islands. The 1951 quota is on about same per capita basis as amount used in 1950, allowing for 2 per cent increase, in population.

Up to December 16, U. S. had received 7,918,464 tons of sugar, compared with 7,364,918 tons through same period of 1949. Big increase came in June and July; other months were about same for both years. Figures include domestic and off-shore sugar.

* * *

Wide variation in allowances for bacteria count and other sanitary regulations governing milk found in study of laws and ordinances of all states and 84 principal cities. Study made by Dairy Branch of PMA and National Research Council. Copy of report available from PMA, USDA, Washington. Companion report to be issued soon on how milk laws are administered and effect on quality of milk.

* * *



U. S. sold 4,951,000 bushels of wheat (including flour) under International Wheat Agreement during week of December 13-19. Most of sales in form of grain. Principal buyers were Germany, Italy, United Kingdom, Netherlands, and Switzerland. Cumulative sales for 1950-51 marketing year total 103,484,000 bushels compared with only 29 million at same time year ago. Several small countries have bought up to limit of quotas.

* * *

Meat production under federal inspection during week ending December 23 was 382 million pounds, down 11 per cent from preceding week, but 20 per cent above year ago. Approach of Christmas holiday usually brings slump in marketings and slaughter. Holiday on Monday, together with heavy snow in Midwest, expected to reduce marketings of livestock this week.

* * *

USDA will continue to subsidize exports and new uses of honey into 1951. Packers who sell honey into diversion outlets at reduced prices may continue to receive up to 4.5 cents per pound. Export subsidy rate set at 4.5 cents or half of F.A.S. sales price, or domestic market price, whichever is lowest.

* * *

Schools in 11 Midwestern states have been allocated 1,867,620 pounds of pork and 664 cars of apples to be included as part of nation-wide school lunch program. About 8 million children across nation eat lunches in which Federal funds pay part of cost and government-purchased foods supplement local purchases. Apples come from Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Washington.

* * *

Foodstuffs purchased by government to support farm prices and distributed to schools, public institutions, and welfare agencies for use at home and abroad totaled about 415 million pounds during first 11 months of this year. Domestic distribution amounted to 318 million pounds and overseas distribution by U.S. private charities was 97 million pounds. Potatoes made up 254 million pounds, more than 4 million bushels. Ten million pounds of dried skim milk, 4 million pounds of dried eggs, 29 million pounds of butter and 18 million pounds of cheese were distributed at home; and 60 million pounds of dried skim milk, 10 million pounds of dried eggs, 19 million pounds of butter and 7 million pounds of cheese were distributed abroad.

* * *

Housewives bought more frozen orange juice concentrate during third quarter of 1950 than during second; cut down purchases of fresh oranges; bought about same amount of canned orange juice (unfrozen). USDA keeps finger on pulse of citrus fruit purchases month by month; has just issued report on July-September, 1950.

* * *

COMMERCIAL APPLE PRODUCTION

| Varieties | Average 1942-48 | 1949 | 1950 |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Gravenstein | 2,712 thou. bu. | 3,264 thou. bu. | 1,757 thou. bu. |
| Other summer | 3,045 " " | 3,609 " " | 2,856 " " |
| Grimes Golden | 2,165 " " | 3,026 " " | 2,706 " " |
| Jonathan | 7,639 " " | 10,214 " " | 6,927 " " |
| Wealthy | 2,049 " " | 2,645 " " | 2,174 " " |
| Other Fall | 2,532 " " | 2,801 " " | 2,741 " " |
| Baldwin | 3,380 " " | 5,212 " " | 4,856 " " |
| Delicious | 20,570 " " | 27,877 " " | 27,002 " " |
| Golden Delicious | 2,441 " " | 3,488 " " | 3,183 " " |
| McIntosh | 8,942 " " | 14,291 " " | 13,074 " " |
| R. I. Greening | 1,963 " " | 3,904 " " | 2,094 " " |
| Rome Beauty | 6,163 " " | 8,379 " " | 7,217 " " |
| Stayman | 5,134 " " | 5,357 " " | 5,032 " " |
| Winesap | 11,610 " " | 12,420 " " | 13,081 " " |
| Yellow Newtown | 4,384 " " | 5,010 " " | 4,426 " " |
| York Imperial | 5,593 " " | 4,622 " " | 7,480 " " |

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